

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 6000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-6000

February 20, 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ARMY ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE ARMY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: Development of an Identity Management (IdM) Vision for the Biometrics Program

On May 15, 2003, I designated the Department's Biometrics effort as an Acquisition Category I AM program. As a part of this designation, I instructed the Army, as the Department's Executive Agent for Biometrics, to develop a structured acquisition and program management process, and begin activities necessary to attain a Milestone A decision. I also instructed the Army to develop and coordinate Biometrics' mission needs and requirements, evidenced by an Initial Capabilities Document (ICD) and a Capabilities Development Document (CDD), in close coordination with the Joint Requirements Oversight Council.

In reviewing the efforts to date, the lack of an overarching IdM vision has impeded development of Department-wide requirements for a Biometrics program, as well as the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), Common Access Card (CAC), and Net-Centric Enterprise Services (NCES) programs. To ensure that the mission needs and requirements for all IdM capabilities are adequately defined, an overarching vision must be developed. In memorandum of January 12, 2004, I established an Identity Management Senior Coordinating Group (IdMSCG) as a DoD-wide focal point for policy, requirements, strategy, and oversight on physical and virtual IdM. One of their first tasks will be to formulate a corporate vision for IdM in close coordination with OUSD(P&R), OUSD(P), and OUSD(I). When the IdMSCG's work on the vision is complete, IdM mission needs and requirements will be vetted through the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System and acquisition management will be conducted through the Defense Acquisition System.

Until the Department has established an overarching IdM vision, an ICD and CDD cannot be completed. During the development of the IdM vision, the Biometrics Acquisition Program will remain in a pre-MAIS status focused on those activities that occur prior to acquisition program initiation. The Biometrics Management Office (BMO) should continue to focus on pre-ICD activities, such as concept exploration, risk reduction, standards development, requirements collection, and testing of commercial products. Within these categories, areas of promise may be pursued through Advanced Technology Demonstrations, Joint Warfighting Experiments, or Advanced Concept and Technology Demonstrations pilot projects. The goal in initiating these projects is to



obtain valuable knowledge as the Biometrics Acquisition Program moves forward, and to support Milestone A and B activities. Prior to starting a project, it will be assessed via a review process established by the Executive Agent and the NII OIPT Leader. In addition, the BMO will provide quarterly reports to the DASD (Deputy CIO) and the NII OIPT Leader on efforts planned, underway, and completed.

Functional oversight of the BMO's efforts will remain with the DASD (Deputy CIO) and acquisition oversight with the NII OIPT Leader. The lead for functional oversight of Biometrics is Gary Windham; he may be reached at 703-604-0501. Leo Milanowski is the lead for acquisition oversight and may be reached at 703-602-2720 X142.

John. P. Stenbit

cc:

ITAB Members
Identity Management Senior
Coordinating Group Members